18TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME—YEAR B
5th August 2012

First Reading:
Exodus 16:2-4,12-15

Responsorial Psalm:
The Lord gave them bread from heaven.

Second Reading:
Ephesians 4:17,20-24

Gospel Acclamation:
Alleluia, alleluia!
No one lives on bread alone,
But on every word that comes from the mouth of God.
Alleluia!

Gospel:
John 6:24-35

YEAR OF GRACE—PRAYER
Gracious God,
You have blessed this ancient land with many gifts, especially its people.
We thank you for the Year of Grace, a time to start afresh from Christ.
You invite us to contemplate the face of Jesus your Son, that we may experience a
new wave of grace, and that the light of Christ may burn more brightly in our lives.
Attune our hearts and minds to the presence of your Holy Spirit, that our Church
may be transformed, our relationship be healed, and our nation grow in
compassion and justice.
We make our prayer through the intercession of St Mary MacKillop, who showed us
new ways of living the Gospel.
Mary, Help of Christians, pray for us.

www.yearofgrace.catholic.org.au/

MASS TIMES & SERVICES THIS WEEK

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<th>Days</th>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>School Para–Liturgy for St Mary of the Cross MacKillop</td>
<td>9.30am</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Communion Service</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>Mass</td>
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<td>Saturday</td>
<td>Mass</td>
<td>6.00pm</td>
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<td>Sunday</td>
<td>Mass, including Children’s Liturgy</td>
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Baptisms:
Are arranged by appointment and are held on the first Sunday of the month at 11.00am.

Marriages:
(6 months notice)
Arranged by appointment. [Enquiries and information brochure available from Parish Office]

Reconciliation:
Celebrated at 5.30pm on Saturday or by appointment with the Priest.
COMMUNION TO THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND

This service is available to sick, elderly and housebound members of our parish community and there are many special ministers of the Eucharist who would deem it an honour to provide this service to such people. If you know of any parishioners who would like someone to call for this purpose contact the office on 5427 2690 and we will make the necessary arrangements.

WE PRAY FOR...

Please keep in your prayers all the members of this community who are sick, especially Sr Mary Austin and Vincent Kelly and all the sick of the Parish. God bring them peace of mind and a recovery to good health and guide those who care for them. We pray today for all those who have died recently, especially Barbara Reid and for all whose anniversaries are at this time, and for all those who have gone before us from this world to the fullness of life with God. May God have mercy on them all and help us to be faithful to their memory.

PRIVACY LEGISLATION

In 2001, the Commonwealth and Victorian Governments introduced legislation that deals with the manner in which public and private sector organisations may record, use, store and disclose information, including health information, collected from individuals. The Parish of St. Ambrose is committed to upholding and implementing the Privacy Principles set out in the legislation. A copy of the Parish’s Privacy Policy is available to any Parishioner by contacting Bernadette at the Parish Office.

CHURCH ROSTERS

| Readers          | August 4th | John Keating          |
|                 | August 5th | Ann-Marie Elliot & Mary Welch |
|                 | August 11th| Elaine Dugdale Walker |
|                 | August 12th| Sharon Simpson & Jim Wright |
| Special Ministers | August 4th | Pat McHenry or Angela Grinton |
|                 | August 5th | Rhonda Loree, Martin Prior, Kate Mason |
|                 | August 11th| Pat McHenry or Angela Grinton |
|                 | August 12th| Mary Welch, Mary Larnach Jones & Bruna Bombig |
| Church Cleaning  | August 6th  | Marg Flett            |
|                 | August 13th| Frances Bowen |
| Church Flowers   | August 10th| Leanne McGowan & Liz Higgs |
|                 | August 17th| Veronica Sullivan |

COLLECTIONS

Presbytery Collection (1st collection) [This collection covers running costs of Presbytery and Priest’s stipend.] $347
Church (envelopes) collection [This collection covers the Church capital costs, and on going maintenance.] $422

ST MARY OF THE CROSS MACKILLOP QUOTES

These quotes explore the spirituality and personality of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop. She had much wisdom and insight and her words will help us to live the Gospel in TODAY’S world.

If only you would consider the feelings of others a little more and not act quite so hastily in some things. 1899

The Little brown book by Sue & Leo Kane

VOCATION VIEW

“I am the Bread of Life. He who comes to me will never be hungry; he who believes in me will never thirst.” ‘Lord, send us priests after your own heart to give us the Food of everlasting life-Your very Self in the Eucharist.’

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

God frowns upon it when we take or keep more than we need. When the Israelites gathered more than their daily portion of manna, that which they hoarded away became wormy and rotten. In the same way, God calls us today to be content with a fair portion and to be willing to share the rest.

MONDAY AT THE MANOR

Call in at Judy and John Will’s house at Lot 6, Adam Close, around midday this Monday for a sandwich and a chat. Everyone welcome. Anyone needing transport can call Judy and John on 54272827.

GOSPEL REFLECTION

The people seek Jesus because he has worked a miracle by multiplying the loaves and fish to feed them. Jesus wants them to move from the satisfaction of earthly food to the sign beneath the miracle: the presence of God’s kingdom. Jesus coaxes them on so that they will believe in him, the one sent by God. We too must seek and believe in Jesus, the bread of life.

MEDITATION

Please remember if you are cleaning or arranging flowers on Saturday morning that the Christian Meditation Group will be in the Church from 9 am until 12 noon.
SPIRITUAL PAMPERING DAY
Saturday 6 October, 10am - 4pm
Melbourne women of all ages from all backgrounds are invited to a special retreat day with the Dominican Sisters of St Cecilia from Nashville Tennessee. Come and join us for a beautiful day of prayer, reflection, Mass and inspiring talks from the sisters on “Encountering Christ in The Year of Faith”.
Where: Siena College, 815 Riversdale Rd, Camberwell
Cost: $10 per person (morning tea and lunch)
RSVP: 28 September
Contact: Thérèse Nichols therese.nichols@acu.edu.au

A GALA EVENING OF HOPE: FUNDRAISING EVENT FOR THE CHILDREN OF EAST TIMOR
Friday 19 October, 7pm
Mingle with Jose Ramos-Horta, former President of East Timor and Nobel Peace Prize recipient. Enjoy fine food and wine, great entertainment by comedian Lawrence Mooney and host John Deeks. Dine and dance while making a significant difference to the children of Zumalai, East Timor.
Where: St Kilda Town Hall, 99A Carlisle Street
Dress: Formal
Tickets: $160 Single and $1,600 for a table of 10
Contact: 9690 8822 OR solmc@netspace.net.au
The Living Word

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B
5 August 2012

First Reading   Ex 16:2-4, 12-15
A reading from the book of Exodus

I will rain bread from heaven upon you.

The whole community of the sons of Israel began to complain against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness and said to them, ‘Why did we not die at the Lord’s hand in the land of Egypt, when we were able to sit down to pans of meat and could eat bread to our hearts content? As it is, you have brought us to this wilderness to starve this whole company to death!’

Then the Lord said to Moses, ‘Now I will rain down bread for you from the heavens. Each day the people are to go out and gather the day’s portion; I propose to test them this way to see whether they will follow my law or not.’

‘I have heard the complaints of the sons of Israel. Say this to them, “Between the two evenings you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have bread to your hearts content. Then you will learn that I, the Lord, am your God.”’ And so it came about: quails flew up in the evening, and they covered the camp; in the morning there was a coating of dew all round the camp. When the coating of dew lifted, there on the surface of the desert was a thing delicate, powdery, as fine as hoarfrost on the ground. When they saw this, the sons of Israel said to one another, ‘What is that?’ not knowing what it was. ‘That’ said Moses to them ‘is the bread the Lord gives you to eat.’

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm
Ps 77:3-4, 23-25. 54. R. v.24
(R.) The Lord gave them bread from heaven.

1. The things we have heard and understood, the things our fathers have told us, we will tell to the next generation; the glories of the Lord and his might.

2. He commanded the clouds above and opened the gates of heaven. He rained down manna for their food, and gave them bread from heaven.

3. Mere men ate the bread of angels. He sent them abundance of food. He brought them to his holy land, to the mountain which his right hand had won.

Second Reading   Eph 4:17, 20-24
A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

Put on the new person that has been created in God’s image.

I want to urge you in the name of the Lord, not to go on living the aimless kind of life that pagans live. Now that is hardly the way you have learnt from Christ, unless you failed to hear him properly when you were taught what the truth is in Jesus. You must give up your old way of life; you must put aside your old self, which gets corrupted by following illusory desires. Your mind must be renewed by a spiritual revolution so that you can put on the new self that has been created in God’s way, in the goodness and holiness of the truth.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation   Mt 4:4

Alleluia, alleluia!
No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.

Alleluia!

Gospel   Jn 6:24-35
A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Whoever comes to me will never be hungry; whoever believes in me will never thirst.

When the people saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they got into boats and crossed to Capernaum to look for Jesus. When they found him on the other side, they said to him, ‘Rabbi, when did you come here?’ Jesus answered:

‘I tell you most solemnly, you are not looking for me because you have seen the signs but because you had all the bread you wanted to eat.

Do not work for food that cannot last, but work for food that endures to eternal life, the kind of food the Son of Man is offering you, for on him the Father, God himself, has set his seal.’

Then they said to him, ‘What must we do if we are to do the works that God wants?’ Jesus gave them this answer, ‘This is working for God: you must believe in the one he has sent.’ So they said, ‘What sign will you give to show us that we should believe in you? What work will you do? Our fathers had manna to eat in the desert; as scripture says: He gave them bread from heaven to eat.’

Jesus answered:

‘I tell you most solemnly, it was not Moses who gave you bread from heaven, it is my Father who gives you the bread from heaven, the true bread; for the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.’

‘Sir,’ they said ‘give us that bread always.’ Jesus answered:

‘I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never be hungry; he who believes in me will never thirst.’

The Gospel of the Lord.

Reflection
by Dianne Bergant CSS

In many ways the Exodus story of the bread from heaven is very similar to last Sunday’s accounts. However, the focus today is not divine prodigality shown through the overabundance of food, but total dependence on God. The bread comes from heaven, not merely because the food seems to come down from the sky, but because it comes from God. The content about collecting it was meant to emphasize this point. Our survival is in God’s hands, not ours.

Jesus insists that he is the true bread from heaven; he is the real basis of our survival. The people followed him because they saw him as a source of bread; they did not realize that he is really the source of life. If we fill ourselves with all that the world provides as nourishment we will still hunger. Only faith in Jesus can satisfy our deepest hungers, and we will not be able to survive apart from him.

Acceptance of Jesus as the source of our life and the very nourishment of our spirits effects a total transformation in us. We will no longer be content to live with full bellies but empty minds. We will put aside our old selves steeped in ignorance and self-interest and put on a new self, created in his image. Having fed on the bread from heaven, we will be mysteriously transformed into it. The spirit of our minds will be renewed by his teaching. As a result, we will be able to launch out into a way of living that witnesses to our new understanding, our new life.
St Dominic de Guzman was born in Calaruega, Spain, in c.1170. One legend suggests that at his baptism, his mother saw a shining star appear in front of him. Dominic became a priest at the age of twenty six, and several years later was made the unofficial leader of a papal mission to the Albigensian heretics in the French province of Languedoc. For this work he trained a group of religious women and established a nunnery at Prouille. Soon the idea of an order of preachers began to grow, and in 1216 the order of Friars Preachers was formally approved by Rome. With a strong emphasis on the vow of poverty, the Friars Preachers became popular missionaries in Western Europe, Asia and the Americas.